## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 02675 170740Z ACTION COME-00

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5371

**UNCLAS TOKYO 2675** 

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EFIN, JA

SUBJECT: BORROWING BY JAPANESE CORPORATIONS

TO MR. MICHAEL BRADFIELD 1200- 17TH ST., N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. TELEX NO. 64391

REFERENCE: YOUR TELEX OF FEB 14

WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY ANALYSES OF BORROWING BY LARGE JAPANESE CORPORATIONS INDICATING CLEARLY HOW MUCH IS FLOATING RATE AND HOW MUCH IS FIXED RATE. AS BEST WE CAN PUT THINGS TOGETHER, ABOUT TWO-THIRDS OF THEIR TOTAL LIABILITIES (EXCLUDING CAPITAL) REPRESENTS SHORT-TERM, FIXED RATE BORROWING. THIS INCLUDES ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND OTHER TRADE FINANCING. HOWEVER, THIS BORROWING -- MOST CLEARLY THE THIRD WHICH IS CARRIED AS HORT-TERM BORROWING FORM FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- IS OFTEN ENEWABLE AT PREVAILING INTEREST RATES, WITH VARYING DEGREES OF LAG, AND THUS COULD EFFECTIVELY BE CONSIDERED TO BE FLOATING RATE BORROWING (EVEN IF THIS IS NOT THE WAY THE TERM IS NORMALLY USED). THE REMAINING ONE-THIRD OF THEIR TOTAL BORROWING IS PRIMARILY MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM, FIXED INTEREST RATE, EXCEPT FOR IMPACT LOANS (MEDIUM/ LONG-TERM FOREIGN CURRENCY LOANS TO JAPANESE BORROWERS). UNCLASSIFIED

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THE LATTER, WHICH ARE ESTIMATED TO ACCOUNT FOR LESS THAN ONE-TENTH OF LONG-TERM BORROWING, ARE MAINLY FLOATING RATE BORROWINGS IN THE USUAL SENSE. FIGURES FOR THE IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY SHOW ABOUT A 55/45 SPLIT BETWEEN SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM LIABILITIES.

IN SUM, IT SEEMS THAT WHETHER ONE SAYS MOST BORROWINGS

ARE FLOATING RATE OR FIXED RATE DEPENDS UPON TE CONTEXT IN WHICH ONE USES THE EXPRESSIONS. IT SHOULD BE ADDED THAT THE INTERPETATION ABOVE IS BASED ON LOOKING AT TWO-THREE YEAR OLD FIGURES FOR OUTSTANDING LIABILITIES OF LARGE JAPANESE COMPANIES, I.E. IT IS NOT AN ANALYSIS OF WHAT THEY BORROWED IN A GIVEN YEAR OR IN RECENT YEARS.

HOPE YOU DO MAKE IT T TOKYO SOON. BEST REGARDS.

MAC MC CAMEY AMERICAN EMBASSY TOKYO, JAPAN MANSFIELD

NOTE BY OC/T: PASSED WASHINGTON, D.C.

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## Message Attributes

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Subject: BORROWING BY JAPANESE CORPORATIONS TO MR. MICHAEL BRADFIELD 1200- 17TH ST., N.W.

TAGS: EFIN, JA, (BRADFIELD, MICHAEL)

To: STATE Type: TE

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